2005-06 and the first three quarters of 2006-07 for Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme and how many households have been provided with drinking water facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Out of 74,000 uncovered habitations which were reported uncovered as per CAP 99 (Comprehensive Action Plan) based on coverage in previous years, under Bharat Nirman Programme for rural drinking water supply, it is proposed to cover uncovered habitations as well as to address issues of quality and slippages.

During 2005-06 a total amount of Rs. 5946.25 crores have been utilized for covering 97215 habitations which included uncovered as also partially covered of CAP 99, slipped back and quality affected habitations. In the first three quarters of 2006-07, a total amount of Rs. 4207.05 crores have been utilized for covering 55452 habitations which similarly included uncovered, partially covered of CAP 99, slipped back and quality affected habitations.

Funds for Bihar under Swajaldhara Scheme

1776. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering allocation of more funds to Bihar for Swajaldhara Scheme;

(b) whether it is a fact that several village are waiting for funds under Swajaldhara in Bihar, where community contribution has already been paid; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Rural drinking water is a State Subject. Government of India only provides technical and financial support to States in this regard, through Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) and Swajaldhara. Upto 20 % of Accelerated Rural

Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) funds may be allocated for the Swajaldhara scheme annually. At the beginning of each financial year, funds under Swajaldhara scheme are allocated to all States from the Centre as per the inter-State ARWSP allocation ratio fixed for the year. The States then make district-wise allocations and consider specific proposals at District Water and Sanitation Committee (DWSC) / State Water and Sanitation Mission (SWSM) level and approve them in conformity with Swajaldhara Guidelines. As the proposals from the villages, are not received at the Center details of pending projects at the State/ district level are not maintained.

Persons registered in Punjab under NREGS

1777. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state: (a) the number of persons registered so far in Punjab under the Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme and the number out of them, who have been provided employment, with the expenditure incurred thereon; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to bring more areas in the State under the scheme and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) A total of 37326 households have been issued job cards so far in Punjab out of which 31008 have demanded work and 30868 have been provided work and Rs. 17.27 crores have been utilized till the month of January, 2007 during 2006-07 in the State.

(b) Three more districts of Punjab namely Nawanshahr, Jalandhar and Amritsar have been identified for inclusion under NREGA.